GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:716
ANSWERED ON:21.07.2016
Development of Wasteland
Choudhary Shri Ram Tahal;Giluwa Shri Laxman

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is implementing the wasteland development programme in Jharkhand in non-forest wastelands in the State;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the targets fixed in this regard with reference to Jharkhand and the extent to which it has been achieved;
(d) the names of agencies through which these programmes are being implemented and problems being faced by the Government in making this scheme a success; and
(e)the steps taken by the Government to sort out these problems and the success achieved by the Government with those steps?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) & (b) The departmentis not implementing any programme exclusively for the Wasteland Development in Jharkhand. However, the department has been implementing Watershed Development Component of Pradhan MantriKrishiSinchayeeYojana (WDC-PMKSY) erstwhile Integrated Watershed Management Programme in the States including Jharkhand for the development of rainfed/degraded areas including Wastelands of both in forest/non-forest areas. Under this programme, a total of 171 projects covering an area of 9.11 lakh hectareswith a total cost of Rs. 1186.28 crore have been sanctioned in Jharkhand State. As per the Guidelines ofProgramme, the period for completing PMKSY (Watershed Development) projects is between 4-7 years.These projects are in different stages of implementation.

(c) As per the information of the State Government of Jharkhand, out of the total target of 80776.49 hectares wasteland, 10725 hectare wasteland has been converted into cultivable land through different soil & water conservation measures i.e. Afforestation, Horticulture, Agriculture, Contour trench, Staggered trench, farm bunding, land leveling, Loose bolder structure, Gully plug, terracing, Vegetative measures etc.

(d) & (e) The Watershed Projects are being implemented through State Level Nodal Agency (SLNA) i.e. Jharkhand State Watershed Mission under Rural Development Department. At project level, the projects are being implemented through different implementing agencies such as Soil Conservation Department, Forest Department, Agriculture Department, Fisheries Department, Watershed Cell cum Data Centre, Voluntary Organizations and Institutes etc. As per the information of State Government of Jharkhand, the problems faced by the State are absence of Directorate / Authority at State and District Level and drop out of the staff at all level.The establishment of Separate Watershed Authority is under process.

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